

**Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on
Student Life**

Held on Friday, November 28, 2003

SGW Campus Hall 769 10:00am

PRESENT: Dr. C. Bertrand, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Ms W. Avalos, Ms S. Bakarally, Mr. P. Blais, Mr. R. Côté, Mr. B. Farrington, Me P. Fréreau, Dr. S.M. Graub, Mr. B. Hamideh, Dr. J. Jans, Ms F. Naqvi, Ms S. Novembre, Mr. S. Rosenshein, Ms. D. Ross, Dr. F. Shaver, Ms K. Sheehan, Ms C. Steenbergen, Mr. A. Talaat Mr. J. Brisebois, Ms L. Gould, Ms K. Hedrich, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms L. Toscano

ABSENT WITH REGRETS: Ms M. Drew, Ms P. Posius

GUESTS: Ms A. Ghadban, Mr. J. LaChance, Ms C. Xydous

DELEGATES: Ms I. Sendek for Mr. W. Curran

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Me Fréreau, and seconded by Mr. Côté.

A motion to approve the agenda was carried unanimously

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Bertrand informed Council that the fee levies for the IEAC and Concordia Francais were passed at the recent CSU referendum.

Dr. Bertrand took the opportunity to invite Council members to the Student Services Holiday Luncheon on December 17th.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF OCT 31, 2003:

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Jans and seconded by Mr. Talaat. Mr. Blais felt that the minutes did not accurately reflect the discussion on the releasing of nominative information on students (Page 3 of the minutes). He asked that the minutes be amended to state that Dr. Bertrand did consult with Legal Counsel before releasing information. Dr. Bertrand indicated that as no specific case was discussed, the information

as reported is accurate. Mr. Blais did not agree and he asked that his comments go on record.

The motion to approve the minutes was carried

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Publicizing Student Services at the Loyola Campus

Dr. Bertrand confirmed that Bill Miller in IITS has been approached about including information on student services at Loyola on the student portal. As well arrangements are being made through Mr. Derek Cassoff, Arts & Science, to ensure that the Loyola academic departments/advisors are aware of the services available to their students.

4.2 Cleaning of Tables in Student Study Areas

Dr. Bertrand confirmed that Ms Posius had requested a mid-day cleaning of the study tables. Ms Fariha said she felt the 7th floor area was cleaner. However, she indicated there were still no cleaning materials available in the "caged area".

4.3 Clocks on the Teaching Computers

Dr. Bertrand confirmed that a request to fix the clocks on the teaching computers had been made to Ms L. Cornax in IITS.

4.4. Appointments to CCSL Sub-Committees

Dr. Bertrand informed Council of the following appointments:

CCSL Student Project Funding Committee

Ms M. Drew, chair

Mr. A. Talaat, graduate student

Ms W. Avalos, undergraduate student

Ms F. Naqvi, undergraduate student

Ms S. Bakarally, undergraduate student

CCSL Awards Committee

Me P. Frégeau, chair

Ms C. Steenberg, graduate student

Mr. B. Hamideh, undergraduate student

Mr. P. Blais, undergraduate student

Dr. F. Shaver, Faculty

5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION

There were no reports or items of information.

6. STUDENT LIFE ISSUES

Ms Avalos informed Council that the door to the MSA Library was not locking properly and that there was also a problem with the History Department doors in the McConnell Building on the 6th Floor. She explained that a faculty member had inadvertently locked himself inside and was unable to get out. Ms Boujaklian asked if Physical Plant had been informed of these problems. As Ms Avalos was not sure, Ms Boujaklian offered to follow-up on these issues. As these issues also involve security, Mr. Brisebois will follow-up as well.

Ms Naqvi asked if an emergency telephone could be installed in the basement of the Loyola Campus Centre to help ensure the safety of students. Mr. Brisebois agreed to investigate this possibility.

Mr. Farrington said there are not enough adequate tables and chairs for students' needs in the 7th Floor Cafeteria. He also indicated that there are more broken chairs than not and asked that this situation be remedied. Dr. Bertrand said as there are plans to "re-do" the 7th Floor, the issue of tables and chairs will be dealt with then.

Ms Naqvi felt there were inadequate places in the main building at Loyola for students to sit and relax between classes. She asked if it would be possible to put chairs in the basement of the Administration Building. Dr. Bertrand explained that that area was already very limited in available space and for safety reasons there must be clear access to the staircase and the elevator. He also said that in the winter months the temperature in that area could be very chilly. It was noted that in addition to the student space in the new science building, lounge space in the AD/CC Buildings is available in the Guadagni Lounge (CC 4th floor), the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Office (AD 130) and the waiting area just inside the Dean of Students Office (AD 121).

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE RECREATION & ATHLETICS BOARD

Dr. Graub informed Council she had had a very productive meeting with Ms Sheahan concerning the Recreation & Athletics Board. Both Dr. Graub

and Ms Sheahan felt that as the mandate of the Future Search Committee was very similar to that of the R&A Board it might be appropriate to merge these two bodies. Dr. Graub and Ms Sheahan will continue to meet and get input from the permanent members of the Advisory Board to see how the vision of Recreation & Athletics can be best supported. Dr. Graub will report back at the next CCSL meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Motion #2 revised – Mr. P. Blais (Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank)

This motion was moved by Mr. P. Blais and seconded by Ms W. Avalos. In order to facilitate discussion, Dr. Bertrand asked that this motion be considered “as if in the committee of the whole”. The members consented and Mr. Blais then asked that Ms C. Xydous, the off-campus housing and job bank coordinator, address Council first. Ms Xydous gave an overview of the service and pointed out the large increase in use of this service by students. She explained the increase was across the board from telephone calls to on-site visits to “hits” on the web-site to emails. Council expressed concern with respect to the following issues:

- clarification on how their statistics were obtained and presented
- lack of information on how these increases impact on the service financially
- no assessment process; no mechanism in place to ascertain the success rate of the service
- no budgetary information submitted
- no accountability to CCSL

After a lengthy discussion, the members agreed to move out of “as if in the committee of the whole”.

Mr. Blais spoke briefly about the importance of the service and how it has expanded over the years. He also indicated that financial support from CSU has been increased to meet the increasing needs of the service. Mr. Farrington confirmed that the current budget for the Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank for 2003-04 is \$42,000. Mr. Farrington also indicated, that with the limited residence space on campus and the housing shortage in Montreal, it is a crucial service for students. Dr. Shaver felt the motion needed clarification. As the mover and the seconder had no objection, paragraph three of the motion was revised to read:

Be it resolved that the amount of \$5,600 be restored to the Off-Campus Housing & Job Bank for years 2004-05 and 2005-06 of the Student Services Budget.

A lengthy discussion followed on the issue of accountability. Mr. Cote explained that services which are funded by CCSL have control guidelines and have mechanisms in place to ensure accountability. As the subsidy to the Off-Campus Housing and Job Bank has been an exception to this rule, it was important to clarify the relationship to CCSL. He felt it was essential for this service to have the same level of accountability as the services CCSL currently funds. As a university audit is completed approximately every three years for university services, Mr. Côté felt it would be useful for the Off-Campus and Housing Bank to participate in this process. He added the audit might also recommend more efficient or cost-reducing methods which can only be beneficial in the long run. Dr. Bertrand agreed with Mr. Côté. He also felt that at the very least a committee, with representation from both the CSU and CCSL, should be established to report back on the service's activities and finances, etc. However, Mr. Farrington did not see this service as a CCSL Service. He explained that as it was a service of CSU it was included in the yearly CSU audit. He would be happy to supply CCSL with a copy of the CSU audit if required. Council appreciated and did not dispute the need for this service. However, if funding is to continue from CCSL, Council reiterated their concern that a mechanism be put in place to ensure accountability to CCSL.

Ms Ross, seconded by Dr. Jans made the following motion:

That the motion be tabled and that a committee from the CCSL membership be struck to confer on how CCSL would oversee the funds if an increase were granted

The Motion was carried with a vote of:

Yes 8

No 7

At this time Mr. Blais asked if Council could move to 8.7 on the agenda. Council had no objection.

8.7 Motion #8 revised (W. Avalos – identification of security)

The Motion was moved by Ms Avalos and seconded by Mr. Rosenshein. Ms Avalos explained there have been incidents in the past where security guards have been unwilling to identify themselves to students. She felt strongly that university security guards should wear identification pins clearly visible on their uniform. And most importantly, security guards should readily state their name and position if asked to do so by a student. She added that she realized that this problem was not the case with all security guards but wanted to ensure that this was a stated university policy. Mr. Brisebois said that it was current policy for security guards to identify themselves when asked to do so. However, he expressed

reservations concerning the issue of wearing an "identification pin" on the uniform as a possible safety issue. Dr. Jans was not comfortable with the wording of the "three whereases". He asked if the first whereas could be removed and suggested changes in wording for the remaining two to better reflect the spirit of the motion. As the mover and the seconder had no objection the revised motion was put to a vote:

Whereas security guards may have on occasion denied disclosing their identity to Concordia students,

Be it resolved that CCSL strongly recommends to the Vice-Rector, Services to request all Concordia security members to wear ID name tags as part of their daily uniform,

Be it further resolved that all Concordia security members provide their identification information to any Concordia member upon request.

The motion as amended was carried unanimously

Mr. Blais asked Council to move to 8.4 on the agenda. There was no objection.

8.4 Motion #5 (P. Blais – Membership of the Capital Campaign Disbursement Committee)

The motion was moved by Mr. Blais and seconded by Ms Naqvi. Council discussed the breakdown of the membership. Mr. Talaat felt that in order to be fair and consistent, the BIFR referring to the GSA representation and the ECSGA should be deleted. The mover and the seconder had no objection. The motion, as amended, was put to a vote:

Whereas CCSL has resolved that a committee that will report to CCSL will be struck to decide on the use of such funds;

Be it resolved that the committee be composed of:

- CSU President (chair)*
- 2 Representatives from the CSU*
- 2 Representatives from the GSA*
- 1 Representative from ASFA*
- 1 Representative from CASA*
- 1 Representative from FASA*
- 1 Representative from Alumni & Advancement*
- Dean of Students (or delegate)*

The motion as amended was carried unanimously

Due to time constraints the remaining motions were deferred to the next CCSL meeting.

9. Next Meeting: January 30, 2004 10:00am Hall 769

10. Termination of Meeting

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Dr. Graub and seconded by Dr. Shaver.